



**May 2014**



Children gathered around as the Easter bunny visited the 104th Fighter Wing, Massachusetts Air National Guard, on Saturday, April 19, 2014. Noble Hospital hosted the event, with help from 20 volunteers. The hospital also generously donated the Easter decorations and eggs.

*Photo by Technical Sgt. Melanie Casineau*



Col. James J. Keefe

## AIRSCOOP

### 104th Fighter Wing

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# Commander's Column

## By Col. James Keefe, 104th Fighter Wing Commander

May... Westbound again, Air Force Inspection System (AFIS), and remembering our fallen brothers and sisters.

This weekend (May Unit Training Assembly), we will prepare for a new chapter in the history of the 104th Fighter Wing (104FW). We will prepare the Wing for a deployment in support of Cope Taufan, a Pacific Command (PACOM) exercise that will bring the 104FW the furthest west in the Pacific than we have ever gone. The focus of this exercise is to work with our allies in the Pacific Area of Responsibility and hone our Air Dominance skills. This will be a challenge for the entire Wing. Moving the force such a long distance in a short amount of time, with older equipment, and without many extra resources is an immense challenge. The deployed location is considered "sparse" in terms of facilities, not quite a bare base, but close to being considered one. We will send a lean force in terms of personnel and equipment. Those of you who are deploying will be representing not only the 104FW and the Massachusetts ANG, but also the United States of America during this high visibility exercise to a foreign nation. I expect us to perform and act in our standard "Barnestormer" fashion...professional, humble, and setting the standard as we have done time and time again.

Not only will we be running our Personnel Deployment Function (PDF) line and readying cargo this weekend, but we will also inspect our mobility process under our new AFIS program. Similar to our Phase I of days gone by, this will look very similar. But notice the important difference—we have not done the "dog and pony show" that we previously trained to during the Air Combat Command/Inspector General and Operational Readiness Inspection (ACC/IG ORI) days. We will grade how we actually deploy using our PDF/CDF (Cargo Deployment Function) procedures. Our Wing Inspection Team (WIT) will be grading us to Air Force Inspection (AFI) standards and will identify any weak areas that don't meet the standards. Once completed, this inspection will be added to last month's generation inspection and begin to fill our database of ways to improve the Wing. We are not necessarily looking for an excellent as a final grade (although that is our ultimate goal!), but more importantly finding areas and processes we can improve upon to make sure that when we are called to execute our missions, there will be no question in our minds of how we will perform. This

training deployment will be an excellent test of many of these facets, to an area that has seen an increased emphasis in terms of our national security posture.

Lastly, May is the month we remember our fallen brothers and sisters in arms who have made the ultimate sacrifice. We will continue with our tradition of honoring those from the 104FW who have lost their lives while serving their country during our F-100D Rededication Ceremony Saturday afternoon. And while we enjoy the coming of warm weather and the picnics over the Memorial Day weekend, remember we are still at war with terrorists whose only goal is to destroy the West and the freedoms that were the founding of our country. Many of our troops will still be deployed — keep them in your thoughts. Please consider taking part in one of the many ceremonies over the weekend to honor those who gave so much for our freedoms.

Thanks for your continued service to our nation and our Wing!

Cobra

### Table of Contents

2	Commander's column
3	Command Chief's Column
3	First Sgt.'s Column
4	Book reading for local school kids
4	Boston marathon
5	USO Military ball & gala
5	School donations
6	Chaplain's Corner
6	SGLI premium adjustment
7	Safety - How goes it?
8	Roll call message
9	ESGR
9	MA ANG Historical Association
10-13	FYI
14	Promotions / Retirements / CCTV
15	A look back - Airscoop 65 years

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# Chief Master Sergeant's Column

By Maj. Mary Harrington, 104th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Officer



The 104th Fighter Wing (104FW) has announced a new Command Chief – Chief Master Sgt. Maryanne Walts. “I am extremely honored and excited about being selected for the Command Chief position,” said Chief Walts. “I am fortunate to follow an excellent example, set by former Command Chief Master Sgt. Todd Fappiano. He has set the pace and I’m prepared to further develop the rhythm.”

Chief Walts is home grown from the local community – she graduated from Westfield High School in 1981 and went to basic training the same year. She was originally trained as an Inventory Management Specialist and assigned to the 3245<sup>th</sup> Air Base Group at Hanscom Air Force Base. After almost four years of active duty, she transferred to the Massachusetts Air National Guard by means of the Palace Chase Program.

At the 104FW, Chief Walts rose through the ranks, serving as Supply Systems Analyst, Supply Computer Analyst, Resource Manager and Squadron Superintendents of the Force Support Squadron and Logistics Readiness Squadron (LRS).

Chief Walts is an avid community volunteer with the local community and schools, and she is completing a degree from the Community College of the Air Force.

Chief Walts brings to the 104FW superior leadership skills, in-depth knowledge of supply and logistics, and a deep commitment to the community, the 104FW family, and United States Air Force. “I have always enjoyed working with people and I have tried to be a positive role model for those who follow me,” she said. “I have been very fortunate to work for some great leaders though out my years in the military, and I have learned some very valuable lessons from those before me.”

The Air Force and 104FW have recognized Chief Walts’ contributions with numerous awards and decorations, including the 104<sup>th</sup> LRS Active Guard Reserve (AGR) technician of the year (1997 and 2008), the 104<sup>th</sup> Logistics Group AGR technician of the year (1997), the 104<sup>th</sup> LRS First Sergeant Award (2011), the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak

leaf cluster, the Air Force Achievement medal with two oak leaf clusters, and the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (rifle).

A mother of three boys, Chief Walts’ advice to the members of the 104FW: “I have found that in order to be successful — not only in the military but also in life — is to understand how to balance it all. I am not saying it is an easy task – it can be very challenging at times. Recognizing *when* you have to shift is the key. Ask for help when you need help; communicate and collaborate for the greater good. The role of the Command Chief is taking care of our valuable assets, our people, our families and our community, and I’m there!”

Regarding the current Air Force climate, Chief Walts commented: “We have some major challenges in the Air Force today. Budget cuts, manpower downsizing, and health care increases, to name a few. The value of an Airman increases within a resource constrained environment. Understanding what the true meaning of a good WINGMAN is, and when someone needs our help is key – we be there for them. We all need support... it’s a cooperative and collaborative team effort. Again, it’s truly an honor to serve as the Command Chief of the 104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, and I’m looking forward to the challenges.”



## First Sergeant's thoughts

By Master Sgt. Tom Moriarty, 104th Logistics Readiness Sq. 1st Sgt.

Welcome to the May Unit Training Assembly (UTA). I would like to thank each and every one of you for your patience and dedication to duty last month as the unit conducted a wide array of scenarios across the base. As society changes it is imperative that the 104<sup>th</sup> be flexible in its ability to adapt to those changes and train to meet the needs of the United States Air Force and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

I would like to welcome Chief Master Sgt. Walts to her new position as

Command Chief. Chief Walts brings with her many years of experience as a member of the 104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, as well as her supervisory experience as a member of the Logistics Readiness Squadron for more than 25 years.

As we are in the midst of another deployment, it is a good opportunity for those of us left behind to review our personal affairs. Take time to double check life insurance, power of attorney, family care plan and any dependent information. Do not wait until the last minute to make adjustments to your

personnel readiness.

Please have a safe and productive UTA. Take care of one another and pay attention to your surroundings. If you see something that does not look right say something to a supervisor or phone Security Forces and inform them of your observations. It is the responsibility of every member of this unit’s to be vigilant to your own surroundings and those of your coworkers.



## Book reading for kids at local school

### By Senior Master Sgt. Nina Gutierrez, 104th Medical Group

Eight members of the 104th Fighter Wing volunteered to take part in the 25 Book Campaign Celebration at Maurice A. Donahue Elementary School.

The volunteers included:  
 Senior Airman Amarilis Rodriguez  
 Staff Sgt. Jacquelyn Comer  
 Tech. Sgt. Tony Linton  
 Tech. Sgt. Joseph Scott  
 Tech. Sgt. Kylie Burns  
 Master Sgt. Terry Crowther  
 Senior Master Sgt. Nina Gutierrez  
 Senior Master Sgt. William Butman

The volunteers were placed in teams of two and were assigned books to read to the different classrooms. The classroom setting was full of energy, excitement and anticipation as the students gathered

around the volunteers to listen to the stories. The day was full of fun and enjoyable community connection.

"My favorite part of the day was when the students asked us questions about the military," says Master Sgt. Terrylee Crowther of the 104th Medical Group. "It was interesting to see how the kids viewed the military," she added.

This marks the fourth year of the annual event for the Donahue Elementary School. Along with the community support of the 104FW members, other local agencies (local companies, fire/police, and government officials) took part in this wonderful event.



*Senior Master Sgt. Nina Gutierrez and Master Sgt. Terry Crowther of the 104th Fighter Wing Medical Group.*

## Boston Marathon

### By Sgt. 1st Class James Lally, Joint Force Headquarters

BOSTON - More than 800 Massachusetts, Maine, and Rhode Island National Guard members helped local law enforcement agencies in eight cities and towns to keep the route clear for runners as they hit the road Monday for the 118th Boston Marathon.

The National Guard provided chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear (CBRN), and improvised explosive detection teams, as well as medical and security personnel to help local communities along the 26.2-mile route to ensure the race was safe and successful.

The 79th Troop Command, Massachusetts National Guard, supervised and planned the Guard's efforts to coordinate with local, state, regional and federal partners to support the Boston Athletic Association as they continue to carry on the world's oldest marathon.

"The Massachusetts National Guard is proud to support the 118th Boston Marathon and is working closely with officials from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, the Boston Athletic Association and more than 15 inter-agency partners to ensure a safe and successful race," said Lt. Col. James Sahady, spokesman for the Massachusetts National Guard.

This year's race was categorized as a National Special Security Event by the Department of Homeland Security because of the bombings, and subsequent manhunt in 2013.

Maj. Gen. L. Scott Rice, the adjutant general of the Massachusetts National Guard, said, "We are well-prepared to provide medical and security support to our civil authorities and communities, enhancing safety for the 2014 Boston Marathon. Our National Guard Soldiers



*Hopkinton, Mass. - Deputy Fire Chief Steve Slaman, Hopkinton Massachusetts Fire Department confers with Major James Brown (104th MDG member), Acting Commander EMEDS-CM Medical Task Force Massachusetts Air National Guard (members of the 104th MDG and 102nd MDG) during the 118th Boston Marathon. (Air National Guard photo by Capt. Thomas Kennedy)*

and Airmen are proud to be an integral part of this historic race and our nation's 'Boston Strong' spirit of competition, compassion, and community."

A significant change in the Guard's security strategy this year was that all of the security

personnel were armed military policemen, or security forces specialists. During previous Marathons, Guard members were unarmed while supporting the event. The National Guard Civil Support Teams that advise and help first responders to detect chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive weapons were also armed.

Lt. Col. Matthew Woolums, commander, 1st Civil Support Team, Massachusetts National Guard, said, "We train year-round to advise and assist incident commanders and first responders to detect and deal with chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear devices. This year we added more explosive detection training, and our Soldiers and Airmen carry weapons."

All of the public safety agencies have been committed to carrying out the safety plan in a way that did not diminish the runners and spectators fun. Since last year the public interest in supporting the cities greatest race resulted in 36,000 runners registering for the marathon compared to 27,000 last year. The combination of more runners and tighter security has been a challenge for planners.

"It's great to be here, and to know that we are doing everything we can to keep people safe," said Airman 1st Class Eric Lapworth, Security Forces, 102nd Intelligence Wing, Massachusetts Air National Guard.

## Always by their side - USO Military Ball and Gala event

### By Maj. David Mendoza, 104th Wing Executive Officer

On behalf of America's men and women in uniform, the USO of Pioneer Valley hosted their 4th annual Military Ball and Gala at The Delaney House Restaurant in Holyoke, Massachusetts. This sold out event, took place on Saturday, April 12th, as many local military heroes from each branch of the U.S Armed Forces, as well as Pioneer Valley USO supporters were recognized for their service.

The spectacular evening was highlighted by the attendance of guest speaker, Keni Thomas, the former Army Ranger, who survived the Battle of Mogadishu as part of Operation Restore Hope in Somalia. Keni is now a nationally recognized author and country music performer who has dedicated

his life to helping veterans. This event inspired the book and movie "Black Hawk Down".



Since its founding in 1941 under the direction of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the mission remains constant, "To enhance the quality of life for our military personnel and their families, by helping them adjust to the special rigors of a transient military lifestyle and by fostering a viable partnership between the military and civilian communities."

As a private, non-profit organization who relies on donations from both individuals and businesses, our local USO helped more than 30,000 families and military personnel. They are truly a valued partner and as we continue to protect America the USO is always by our side.

An additional highlight for the evening was one of the 104th's outstanding NCO's was recognized for an award. The Air National Guard Honoree was Tech. Sgt. Christine Lupacchino from the Medical Group. She also serves the Wing as a fulltime Honor Guard member. Her contributions caught the attention of leadership from both the wing and the USO. Congratulations Tech. Sgt. Lupacchino!

This year the USO is celebrating 73 years of service; it is important to reflect on the strong heritage of this fine organization.



## School donations

### By Master Sgt. Tina Dimino-Frazer, 104th Force Support Squadron

Jake Diaz, a 4th grade student of Southampton Road School of Westfield, MA was instrumental in the school's K-Club donation drive. The K-Club teaches children the importance of giving back to the community. The drive was a huge success with the entire school participating and collecting nine full boxes! All supplies were brought to the Pioneer Valley USO, located at Westover Air Reserve Base Chicopee. The USO will forward these supplies to service members stationed overseas. Jake said he wanted to do this collection "mostly because I miss my dad, and I wanted to help all service members serving our country."

Helping Jake was his brother, Nick and his mom, Maria. Jake and Nick's dad, Ramon Diaz is a Major with the 104th

Fighter Wing, Barnes Air National Guard Base, Westfield MA.

Maj Diaz is currently serving a 6month tour overseas in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Diaz family looks forward to the Major's return which is expected later this year.



*Standing L-R: Master Sgt. Tina Dimino-Frazer, 104FW and 104th Family Readiness Volunteer; Mrs. Maria Diaz; David Jubinville, President Pioneer Valley USO; Cpl Zimmermann and Cpl Hammond of USMC MWSS-472 Westover ARB; front row L-R: Nick Diaz, Jake Diaz, and friend Joey Adamczyk.*





## Chaplain's Corner - New chapel marks historical milestone

By Chaplain (Capt.) Ken DeVoie, 104th Fighter Wing Chaplain

It may have gone unnoticed, but a new historic milestone has been achieved at the 104th Fighter Wing. Most everyone knows where

Building 12 is – it is where the Fitness Center is located and where we all have to report for our annual Fitness Testing.

Few, however, realize that last year the Chaplain Corp office took over the front of Building 12 as their new home after Civil Engineering relocated to the newly renovated back of Building 8. The move of the Chaplain's Office

out of Building 1 to Building 12 was a strategic move to enable better and freer access to the Chaplain staff.

In many ways Building 12 has become a Total Wellness Center dedicated to not just the physical well-being of all of our Airmen, but also the mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. In addition to providing ample office space for the Chaplain's and the

Chaplain Assistants, a first for the history of Barnes is now in place – a newly renovated and dedicated permanent Chapel.

Until this year, Barnes did not have a permanently dedicated Chapel space – for a long time the Chapel was in the DFAC with all the Chapel furnishing being tucked away in a closet. With this newly dedicated space, 104FW personnel now have access to a space dedicated to spiritual maintenance. Located in the front of Building 12, all personnel can now come and sit in a place for quiet, reflection, peace and prayer.



Sometimes we need just to get away for a few moments apart from everything else going on. This space is for you. All are welcome and encouraged to use the Chapel during the week and to all are invited to religious services conducted during drill weekends.



*Photos by Tech. Sgt. Melanie Casineau*

The Orthodox Catholic Mass is conducted every Sunday of Drill weekend at 1130 hrs. – allowing those who wish to attend time for worship and still make lunch at the DFAC. Protestant worship services are conducted on Saturday's of Drill weekend at 1600 hrs. Have a blessed and safe Drill weekend!

## SGLI premium adjustment

By Senior Master Sgt. Sue Roth, USAF NCOIC, Customer Support Policy Branch

4/28/2014 - The Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) program will adjust its monthly premium rate from 6.5 cents per \$1,000 back to the 2006 rate of seven cents per \$1,000 of insurance, a modest increase to ensure the SGLI program remains in a strong financial position.

The Department of Veterans Affairs continues to place the interests of Servicemembers first and foremost by keeping SGLI premiums as low as possible while also maintaining the necessary reserve levels to ensure funds are available to pay claims to Servicemembers' beneficiaries. Since the start of the SGLI Program in 1965, monthly premiums have decreased from 20 cents per \$1,000 to the current 6.5 cents

per \$1,000. There have been periodic increases and decreases, but over the past 30 years premiums have fluctuated only 2.5 cents per \$1,000 of insurance.

In order for the program to remain in good financial condition, it is now necessary to increase the premium rate by half a cent per \$1,000 of insurance.

Since 2008, as a result of the half-cent reduction and decreases in interest rates, reserve funds have decreased. Insurance companies hold reserve funds to ensure they can pay future claims. It is common practice in the group insurance industry to adjust premium rates as reserve funds increase and decrease. VA also uses actuaries, individuals who deal with financial impact of risk, to conduct program experience studies when

evaluating and adjusting reserve assumptions; and each year, an independent auditor verifies the accuracy of their reserve calculations.

For a Service member with the maximum \$400,000 of life insurance, this change will mean an increase of two dollars a month. The new premium rate will take effect on July 1, 2014. Individual Ready Reserve members who are drilling for points toward retirement or who do not receive pay for other reasons will be billed by their branch of service for the higher premium beginning in July 2014. For information on the new rates,

visit <http://benefits.va.gov/insurance/sgli.asp>.



## Safety: How goes it?

By Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Dumais, 104th Fighter Wing Safety

***Double Checks Not Second Thoughts!  
Or being Smart or Getting Lucky? The  
Choice is YOURS!***

### **The unit has experienced two (2) injuries since the last How-Goes-It.**

Off duty medical event (chest discomfort); emergency room and admission; medical event

Worker impacted head on aircraft launcher; lacerated head; stitches

### **The unit has experienced three (3) mishaps since the last How-Goes-It**

Government Owned Vehicle (GOV) impact bollard/building damaging building; backing in doorway; \$100 damage

GOV impact GOV damaging vehicle; pulling into parking spot; \$1750 damage

Aircraft impact bird on landing; damaged left horizontal stab; cost to be determined

During the April Unit Training Assembly (UTA) the Safety Office performed traffic safety inspections at the main gate on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday and reported the following violations to the Commander.

Thursday— Three (3) driving while talking on their cell phones and one (1) texting while driving

Friday— Ten (10) personnel not wearing their seatbelts

Saturday— Three (3) personnel not wearing their seatbelts

This is not acceptable. If you are one of these individuals who do not fasten your seatbelt, use your cell phone or text while driving, you will most likely not like the consequences when you are cited. Put it on and put it down! Your life and the lives of others, depends on it!

As the heading above hints, in the realm of personal safety, you can either be smart or lucky when it comes to your well-being. The only one who can make this choice is YOU! Every year, the U.S. Air Force begins a safety campaign labeled the "101 Critical Days of Summer" and this year is no different. This year, the theme is "Double Checks not Second Thoughts." Historically the time between when you depart work on the day before Memorial Day and the day you return to work after Labor Day, there is a spike in off-duty

mishaps. This is due to several factors with the first being that there is increased daylight and increased activities. The increased activities are mostly recreational such as; swimming, boating, fishing, and camping, but there are others. Motorcycle riding, cookouts, home repair, barbecues, and backyard parties are just a few. Each has their own inherent risks and every year we lose or injure fellow Wingmen to tragic

power tools.

Exercise and participating in sports are all great activities, but require preparation and a careful approach. Always jog against traffic, if you are in traffic don't wear ear buds. Wear bright colored or reflective clothing, know your limits and stay hydrated. Hydration is vital, and in the heat of summer, you actually may have to remind yourself to drink water. It doesn't matter what activity that you are engaged, drinking cool water is necessary.

How do you know if you're hydrated? I know it's a bit gross, but if your urine is bright yellow you need to drink more water.

Don't let foodborne illness keep you in a small room by yourself! Keep food items that require refrigeration cold, and items that require heat hot, wash everything, and keep the hand sanitizer close and use it. If you are at a party a smart idea is to not eat the warm macaroni salad. Choose your selections carefully.

The sun is nice, but not if it hurts. Sunscreen on you and the kids is a must if you are outside for any amount of time. Keep a few tubes out so it is readily available to everyone.

Thunder, lightning, and severe weather are inevitable. Make sure you have a plan in place for you and your family. In 2011, a tornado ripped through Western Mass. Be prepared!

Fireworks in Massachusetts are illegal. If you are involved in a display, make sure you and your families are protected. If you are involved in setting them off, don't drink alcohol and thoroughly read the safety directions.

Summertime means travel even if it is just to a day at the beach. Is your vehicle ready for the hot weather travel? When is the last time you checked the air in your tires? Is everyone properly fastened in? Do you have a travel plan for your larger trips so you take rest breaks?

On the behalf of the Safety office we want to wish each of you a great and safe "101 Critical Days of Summer", but it can't happen without you! As the theme says, "Double Checks not Second Thoughts!" Thank you for all you do on and off duty to keep making it happen.



mishaps which could have been prevented if someone played the smart card instead of the luck card. As we begin this year's campaign, we ask each of you to play the smart card. Below are some tips to help you play it smart instead of lucky.

Water drowns people. In a boat, wear a flotation device, always keep count on kids in water, never swim alone, and know your location and how to obtain help.

Motorcycles, scooters, and bicycles all are fun to drive, but each have unique risks. Approach riding slowly and get comfortable riding it again. If you never rode and are going to start, motorcycle training is mandatory if you ride in military status. PPE works, wear it!

Alcohol use can be potentially dangerous. If your judgment and reflexes are impaired due to alcohol, chances of misfortune will increase. Consumption of alcohol should not coincide with swimming, boating, operating vehicles, using ladders, doing home repairs or use of



# Roll Call

Airmen: Winning the Fight. Strengthening the Team. Shaping the Future.

April 2014

## Commitment and Courage

Roll Call! Today we serve in the world's greatest Air Force. We're an agile force that responds in a moment's notice to national threats, provides global capabilities to the joint fight, and dominates in air, space and cyberspace. We are the best, because we have the best...*you*. We ***win the fight, strengthen the team and shape the future*** because our Airmen share a common commitment and the necessary courage to serve and sacrifice.

We commit to our core values. We commit to each other, our fellow Airmen...the men and women who share the same heritage, the same mission and the same passion to serve. We have the courage to face an enemy under fire, the courage to take on new roles and new challenges and the courage to step forward when others may step back.

Commitment and courage set us apart as Airmen. They are the traits we must rely on to conquer a terrible problem: sexual assault.

This month we have paused for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. It's been an opportunity for us to break from the daily grind, to take a knee and to think and talk about sexual assault. We've come a long way over the last year, and yet we still have so far to go.

Sexual assault is a serious issue; it continues to destroy the lives of our fellow Airmen and weaken our force...yet make no mistake about it, we are good enough to overcome. We are the world's greatest Air Force and we have the world's greatest Airmen with the commitment and courage we need to succeed.

We must fully commit to eradicating the crime of sexual assault from the ranks. We must commit to creating an environment where every Airman is treated with dignity and respect. We must have the courage to admit sexual assault is happening and is a problem, the courage to act when a fellow Airman is in danger, and the courage to speak up when we hear or see something that just isn't right. We know what's right, and what's not.

Throughout history we have relied on our commitment and courage to conquer our enemies, foreign and domestic, seen and unseen. We have been brave in the face of danger, because of our unshakable pledge to our nation, to the mission and to each other. We cannot continue to win the fight if we choose to accept and ignore the reality. Sexual assault is a problem we must take on and defeat. We cannot allow this enemy from within to continue to exist and define who we are as an Air Force.

Every Airman must have the commitment and courage to conquer the enemy of sexual assault. Our greatest strength will be the cause of victory...that is *you*, each and every Airman.



The World's Greatest Air Force  
*Powered by Airmen...Fueled by Innovation*

Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.





## Invite Your Boss to Employer Day

**EVER WONDER WHAT THE NATIONAL GUARD UNITS DO AT THE BARNES AIRPORT IN WESTFIELD?**

**On May 16, 2014 join us for an “Employer Day” to uncover their mission.**

The Massachusetts Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), as part of its Employer Outreach Program, has teamed with the Massachusetts National Guard to sponsor an event at the Barnes Airport in Westfield, Mass. The 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment and the 104th Fighter Wing make Barnes Airport home. Employers of National Guard and Reserve personnel are our primary target to participate in this outstanding event, but it is open to all employers and civic leaders. It is scheduled for Friday, May 16, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Employer Day event allows attendees the rare opportunity to tour the ANG and ARNG facilities and meet with military personnel and Mass. ESGR members in an informal forum while enjoying a catered lunch. This event will give you an opportunity to learn more about the valuable work our nation’s reserve force members do when away from their “civilian life” to perform military duties. It also provides an opportunity for employers to express their support for their Citizen Soldiers while seeing why their support is so vital to our nation’s defense. This proves to be an exciting and educational time for all!

**There is no cost to attendees for this outstanding event. If you have any questions, or if you would like to join us at this event, please contact us no later than May 9, 2014**

Contact: Bill Hebert

E-mail: [ESGRBILL@aol.com](mailto:ESGRBILL@aol.com)

Phone: 413-348-5195

## Massachusetts Air National Guard Historical Association

### About

The Massachusetts Air National Guard Historical Association was created in 1974 in response to the increased appreciation of history brought about by the celebration of the United States’ Bicentennial.

The Association’s objectives include maintaining archives, displaying memorabilia and fostering an appreciation of the role of the Air National Guard and its members. It does this with special emphasis on Massachusetts Air Guard Units and Massachusetts Air Guard Members.

The Association has been granted space by the Adjutant General of Massachusetts in the Massachusetts National Guard Military Museum in Worcester for its displays and archives.

### Join Us

Join the Association and help us preserve and display the proud history of the Massachusetts Air National Guard. Your membership will help us to keep this history alive for present and future generations.

You will help if you do no more than become a Member of the Association, but you can also help in other ways, if you wish, such as participating in our Annual Meeting and/or serving on one or more of the Association’s committees. Some committees can function via e-mail whereby committee members may participate without leaving home, while other committees are more “hands-on” and meet together to work on projects such as creating displays or restoring vintage aircraft.

**Join With Us and  
Help Preserve  
Mass ANG History!**



**Visit us on FaceBook!**  
[www.facebook.com/MassANGHS](http://www.facebook.com/MassANGHS)

# Air National Guard Alumni Association

## Alumni Reunion Information

**Date: Wednesday, 21 May, 2014**

**Cost \$15.00**

Location: NCO Club    Social Hour 1800 Hours    Dinner 1900 Hours

Menu: Chicken Francaise, garlic mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, tossed garden Salad, Dinner rolls, dessert, coffee & tea

## Special Announcement

Welcome to our 2nd Alumni Reunion in 2014 and, for those of you who attended in March, we had 117 in attendance. There were several new attendees and we had a great evening. It is our hope that we see new faces at each reunion as we are reaching out to current guardsmen and encouraging them to join us. They have an open invitation to attend and enjoy the evening with present and former Guardsmen. Last May, there were 113 in attendance and we are hoping to exceed that number this year. So, help us to attract new members. Contact those who served with you and encourage them to attend.

## Registration Information

Send your \$15.00 reservation check without delay to Len Frigon, 778 West Street, Ludlow, Ma.01056 to make your dinner reservation and to be included on the list at the gate.

Checks must be made payable to the 104th Mass ANG Alumni Association. Please include the names of all guests in the memo section of your check. Please do not make checks payable to Len. Checks **MUST BE RECEIVED** by 5:PM MONDAY, 19 MAY 2014--NO EXCEPTIONS. Cancellations received by the cut-off date and time reflected above will receive a full refund.

**Hope to see you on the 21st -- Guests are always welcome**

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## Military and Family Life Counselors

Purpose of this email is to provide an update on the OSD JFSAP Military and Family Life Counselors (MFLC). Beginning August 14, 2014, support will change from a three/four member team to Military OneSource (800-342-9647 and [www.militaryonesource.mil](http://www.militaryonesource.mil)). OSD decided on this plan to better meet the needs of all Service Members and Families. They are adapting to this sole delivery system in response to the drawdown of deploying forces and corresponding reduced funding levels.

The Military OneSource program can be accessed through online, telephonic or face-to-face non-medical counseling sessions within 15 miles/30 minutes of the Service member or Family by independently licensed counselors for up to 12 sessions per issue; per Service and Family member. This network of Military OneSource (non-medical counseling) is available regardless of deployment status and is expected to provide enhanced, seamless support.

The change to Military OneSource:

- \* helps to expand support and service delivery
- \* ensures there is no limitation to support tied to deployment
- \* provides greater non-medical counseling delivery methods, better accommodating our Guardmembers's busy lives
- \* ensures the counseling will be of the same high-quality support by masters-level counselors

Respectfully,

Ivan E. Denton  
BG, USA



# For Your Information

## 104 FW 1st Sgt Position

**NOTE:** Selectees may be moved to any valid First Sergeant Position within the wing at the request of the Wing Command Chief and with the concurrence of the unit Commander.

Position Title/Grade: First Sergeant / E-8 Eligible applicants:

Must be an E-7 who is immediately promotable to E-8. Position is a MINIMUM three year tour with a maximum of 6 years.

Members must carefully review AFI 36-2113 to ensure they meet minimum standards and qualifications for position requirements and responsibilities before applying.

Applicants must possess excellent communication and administrative skills, exceed fitness standards and exemplify Air Force Core values.

Applicant must receive concurrence from current commander for consideration.

Applicant selected for this position must agree to serve tenure of no less than 3 years from date of graduating from First Sergeant Academy (FSA). If the member was a prior First Sergeant, the tenure starts the day of assignment.

Applicant must have 3 years retainability prior to being placed in the UMD 8F000 position. Applicant must agree to complete the SNCO Academy Course in residence or by correspondence within 1 year from date of assignment. If a First Sergeant does not complete the SNCO Academy within 1 year from date of assignment, he/she must be removed from the position.

Training: Applicants (if selected) should be able to attend the First

Sergeant Academy at Gunter Annex, AL at the earliest available school date and

must complete the SNCOA in residence or by correspondence within 12 months of selection.

Application package must include:

- Cover sheet
- Letter of application (Describe what you can bring to the position)
- Resume
- Current passing fitness assessment
- RIP (record of individual personnel)
- Commander concurrence (letter or copy of email to 104FW/CCC)
- Letter of recommendation (optional)

Any package that is late or incomplete WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Unit: 104th Fighter Wing

Supervisor: 104th Fighter Wing Commander

Submit Applications via electronic format (word, pdf, etc) via email to: Maj. Matthew Mutti at, [matthew.mutti@ang.af.mil](mailto:matthew.mutti@ang.af.mil)  
104FW/FSS, NLT 1200, 27 May 2014

Board date: June 2014 UTA

For more information contact: CMSgt Maryanne Walts at [maryanne.walts@ang.af.mil](mailto:maryanne.walts@ang.af.mil) 413-568-9151 x698-1418

## Command and Control Technician A1C-SSgt

**Expires:** 28 May 2014

**Eligible applicants:** The following ACA AGR position is available to all individuals eligible for immediate enlistment with the Massachusetts Air National Guard.

Training: If not already in possession of AFSC 1C3XX selected applicant must attend an in residence 3 level school.

### Job Description:

Performs C2 actions to support NORAD Aerospace Control Alert, Homeland Security, National Defense, and Air Force operations.

☐ Receives, processes, and disseminates AF and NORAD EAM's via voice and record copy systems.

☐ Receives, authenticates and transmits NORAD scramble orders.

☐ Relays C2 instructions for diversion, recall, evacuation, recovery, and reconstitution of forces.

☐ Flight-follows and manages aerospace resources and monitors mission status to include aircraft, aircrew support, transportation, maintenance support, fleet services, and passenger and cargo support.

☐ Monitors status and location of key personnel, such as group commanders and above, to facilitate immediate communications with higher headquarters when necessary

☐ Maintains and disseminates local current and forecasted weather to include watches, advisories and warnings to installation populace and aerospace resources

☐ Prepares and submits operational, readiness, SORTS, international treaty, and aerospace asset reports.

☐ Operates and monitors voice, data, and alerting systems.

☐ Receives and disseminates time-critical information to and from the commander to internal and external agencies during daily operation, natural disasters and wartime and contingency operations.

☐ Coordinates actions to ensure prompt response during EM operations including immediate mobilization of resources and participation of agencies and organizations.

☐ Maintains proficiency in C2 systems and aircraft flight following and mission management systems

Application package must include:

- (1) NGB Form 34-1
- (2) Current Individual Records Review List (RIP) from vMPF
- (3) Most recent Report of Individual Fitness (with a minimum composite score of 75) from AFFMS
- (4) ASVAB scores: Admin: 55 and General: 67.

Submit forms to the HRO representative at their servicing Manpower and Personnel Flight (MPF). If you are not currently a member of the 104th Fighter Wing, please scan and email your AGR application to the AGR Branch POC above (104FW/HRORemote@ang.af.mil). Applications must arrive to the AGR Branch POC NO LATER THAN 2359 HRS ON THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THE BULLETIN. Any applications that arrive to the AGR Branch POC after 2359 hrs will be returned without action. APPLICATIONS SENT DIRECTLY TO THE HRO WILL BE RETURNED WITHOUT ACTION

## For Your Information

### Full-time AGR Command Post position

A vacancy will be opening in the 104FW Command Post.

Please watch the following sites for the official posting:

<http://states.ng.mil/sites/MA/careers/agr/default.aspx>;

[https://104fw-sp-](https://104fw-sp-01.ang.ds.af.mil/Mission%20Support%20Group/default.aspx)

[01.ang.ds.af.mil/Mission%20Support%20Group/default.aspx](https://104fw-sp-01.ang.ds.af.mil/Mission%20Support%20Group/default.aspx)

Position: Full time AGR Command and Control Technician

Unit: 104FW/CP, Min Grade: A1C - Max Grade: SSgt

ASVAB: Admin:55 and Gen:67

Position description: Performs C2 actions to support NORAD Aerospace Control Alert, Homeland Security, National Defense, and Air Force operations.

Receives, authenticates and transmits NORAD scramble orders.

Maintains proficiency in C2 systems and aircraft flight following and mission management systems such as Theater Battle Management Core Systems (TBMCS) and Global Decision Support System - 2 (GDSS2) and Patriot Excalibur (PEX).

Must have a SECRET security clearance. Qualified to be awarded a Top Secret clearance. Selectee must be fully AFSC qualified in 1C3X1 or agree to attend the first available qualification course.

POC: Senior Master Sgt. Mark Bolduc e-mail:

[mark.bolduc@ng.af.mil](mailto:mark.bolduc@ng.af.mil), phone: (413) 568-9151, 698-2050

or Master Sgt. Kevin Royer e-mail: [kevin.royer@ang.af.mil](mailto:kevin.royer@ang.af.mil); phone : (413) 568-9151, 698-1221.

### 104 MDG Training Manager Position

The 104th MDG is looking for a traditional guardsman to fill our training manager position. We are looking for an energetic and knowledgeable individual. Interested individuals must understand principles, policies, and procedures of Air Force Education and Training programs; interviewing and counseling techniques; training techniques and instruction methods; task analysis procedures, learning process, curriculum development, training evaluations, and Education and Training systems and products; effective writing skills; editing practices; instructional media application, training reporting, program and curriculum validation, and implementation procedures; training program management; scheduling training events and facilities; conducting assistance visits and training meetings; work center and individual job qualification standard development; education institution registration requirements; military personnel classification system and policies; application of communicative interpersonal skills. Knowledge of AFTR computer training and tracking program.

This individual administers all Education and Training programs, serving as the MDG Education and Training program manager responsible directly to the MDG/CC. They consults on ISD process and career field Education and Training plans (CFETP). They advise on: Education and Training materials and services; conducts work center visits, and organizes programs to develop and conduct job site training. Identifies Education and Training providers, capabilities, and resources, and ensures availability of materials. Recommends revisions to Education and Training programs and CFETPs. Records and evaluates the history of Education and Training achievements, establish goals, and enroll in classes, courses, and programs. Prepares and maintains records, files, and materials.

If interested in the position please contact TSgt Christine Lupacchino at extension 698-2218 , e-mail [Christine.Lupacchino@ang.af.mil](mailto:Christine.Lupacchino@ang.af.mil), or Maj Matthew Mutti at extension 698-1285.

### Massachusetts ESGR State Chair

The Massachusetts committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is seeking applications for the position of State Chair. The ESGR, a Department of Defense office, was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve Component Service members and their civilian employers and to assist in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment. ESGR is supported by a network of more than 4,900 volunteers in 54 committees located across all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam-CNMI, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The State Chair is a non-paid, volunteer position. The State Chair is responsible for all aspects of state ESGR operations. The Massachusetts ESGR committee currently has 65+ volunteers. The State Chair must have excellent leadership and communication skills. Chairs frequently address influential people, or groups of influential people, including governors, TAG, Guard/Reserve general/flag officers, federal, state, and local officials, legislators, mayors, CEOs, business and industry leaders, Chambers of Commerce, and civic groups. Chairs develop and execute the state's annual spending plan and budget. For more information, see: ESGRI 1250.02, Aug. 11, 2010.

Term: The State Chair is appointed for a three-year term, and can serve no more than two terms.

Skills and Qualifications: Applicants must have demonstrated leadership; time available to execute the ESGR mission; motivational, organizational and communication skills; understand the importance of National Guard and Reserve missions; understand business and industry; prior business experience; prior experience with volunteer organizations; ability to plan and organize the activities of a large number of volunteers; understand the strategic planning process; understand the Joint Ethics Regulations as they apply to representing the Department of Defense re: the use of appropriated funds, gifts, travel, and relationships with non-DOD organizations (public sector, private sector, and nonprofit organizations).

Selection Process: The Massachusetts ESGR State Chair Search Committee is currently accepting applications for the position of State Chair. The State Chair search committee will review applications, schedule interviews, and recommend a candidate for appointment. State Chair appointments are made by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume to the Search Committee Chair by mail at the following address not later than Feb. 7, 2014. Interviews are tentatively scheduled for Feb. 15, 2014. Final selection is scheduled for May, 2014 with appointment to commence Oct. 1, 2014.

Robert J. Pomeroy  
Search Committee Chair  
PO Box 1491  
Plymouth, MA 02362



## For Your Information

### TIME Workshop

Technical Sergeants Involved & Mentoring Enlisted Airmen

Workshop will be at Southbridge Convention Center May 12-15, 2014.

Limited to only 100 rooms.

All Commanders/Vice Commanders are encouraged to come as a day tripper for any day they wish to attend. They will receive invites since we need to account for all attendees, since meals are catered.



### BASE HONOR GUARD LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

- Be part of the tradition of excellence
- Honor those who have fallen at military funerals
- Represent the ANG & AF at military & sporting events
- All ranks/specialties can apply

Please contact TSgt Christine Lupacchino or Maj Matthew Mutti by e-mail at: [104FW.HonorGuard@ang.af.mil](mailto:104FW.HonorGuard@ang.af.mil)



### BARBER AVAILABLE

The Barber Shop will be open the following dates from: 0730-1500 hours.

Enter Building 008, South Entrance.

May 15-16

June 5-6 & June 19-20

July 17-18

July 31 - August 1 & August 21-22

September 4-5 & September 18-19

POC for barber shop operations is Senior Master Sgt. Bill Butman, he can be reached at (413) 568-9151, x698-1234.



### Pioneer Valley Club presents a



### Celebration

On 3 May 2015 from 1630 until close

Join us for:  
taco bar \$5.00  
and Frozen Margaritas  
(while supplies last)!

\*Non-alcoholic beverages available



### PVC CORNER

Did you know that the Pioneer Valley NCO Club is a Non-profit organization? Are you aware of what your membership money goes towards each year? A lot of people don't realize that the NCO Club is more than just a bar. We make donations to many different organizations on behalf of its members throughout the year. This past year we have donated to The Family Readiness Group, we have sponsored a hole in a Golf Tournament for the Soldiers Home fundraiser, and sponsored 10 Veterans from the Soldiers Home for the UTA Thanksgiving Meal just to name a few. Your membership money goes towards all maintenance and improvements made at the NCO Club as well. Without your annual donations none of this would be possible.

It's that time of year again, and the Pioneer Valley NCO Club Coins are available at the NCO Club and with Club Council Representatives. The cost is \$10.00.

We look forward to your continued support for 2014!

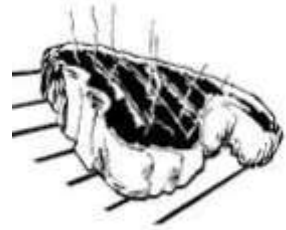


### COOK YOUR OWN STEAK NIGHT

Come join us for  
Cook Your Own Steak Night  
at the Pioneer Valley Club  
Thursday, August 7, 2014  
5-8pm

Dinner to Include:  
Steak & Potato with Salad, and Roll  
RSVP only

\*\*Tickets will be available for sale until Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup>  
\$ TBD



### BARNES FAMILY FLYER

Sign up TODAY to receive the Barnes Family Flyer, a weekly email with information on benefits, entitlements, events and job opportunities for our Barnes family community! Call or email Jennifer Cesaitis today at (413) 568-9151x 698-1183 or email [Jennifer.cesaitis@ang.af.mil](mailto:Jennifer.cesaitis@ang.af.mil)

## Religion notes

**Protestant Worship Service:** Saturday of the UTA, at 11:30 a.m., in the Base Chapel /building 12, Chaplain Stephen Misarski presiding.



**Orthodox Catholic Mass:** Sunday of the UTA at 11:30 a.m., in the Base Chapel of Bldg. 12. Fr. Devoie presiding.

## Congratulations on your retirements

Tech. Sgt. Robert Percy	MXS	10 Jun 2014
Master Sgt. Christopher Margarites	FSS	1 Jul 2014
Master Sgt. Kevin Moran	MOF	10 Jul 2014
Lt. Col. Eric Samuelson	131FS	1 Aug 2014
Staff Sgt. Francesco Devito	AMXS	4 Aug 2014
Master Sgt. Jacqueline Stubbs	MDG	5 Aug 2014
Tech. Sgt. Edward Robinson	AMXS	31 Aug 2014

## CCTV broadcast line up

**Channel 7** - Training videos & Base Info

**Channel 9** - Warrior Network

**Channel 10** - Pentagon Channel - inoperative



## Ancillary training schedule - Channel 7

<u>Morning</u>	<u>Training Video</u>
0900-0940	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
0940-1013	Confined Space Awareness
1013-1023	Basic Ladder Safety
1023-1053	Lockout/Tagout
1053-1101	FOD Prevention
1101-1108	Copyright Infringement

<u>Afternoon</u>	<u>Training Video</u>
1300-1340	Forklift Fundamentals and Ops
1340-1413	Confined Space Awareness
1413-1423	Basic Ladder Safety
1423-1453	Lockout/Tagout
1453-1501	FOD Prevention
1501-1508	Copyright Infringement

## Congratulations on your promotions

### To Airman (E-2)

Christopher Allen	CES
Kyle Kendall	CES



### To Senior Airman (E-4)

David Avalone	MXS
Timothy Bennett	MXS
Dylan Keenan	MXS
Jessica Putnam	MXS
Jose Rivers	MXS



### To Staff Sgt. (E-5)

Samuel Kelmelis	AMXS
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### To Tech. Sgt. (E-6)

Travis Miller	MXS
Jose Rivers	LRS



## Welcome to new members

David Montanez	SFS	13 Mar 2014
Nico Consenzi	MXS	14 Mar 2014
Melvin Colon	FSS	18 Mar 2014
Allison Rand	CES	21 Mar 2014
Trevor Perreault	CPTF	26 Mar 2014
Malia Edwards	MXS	26 Mar 2014
Joel-Bernard Stern	SFS	26 Mar 2014
Nicholas Larivee-Benoit	MXS	27 Mar 2014
Douglas Mentuck	MXS	27 Mar 2014
Brandon Geiger	LRS	28 Mar 2014

## DFAC MENU

### WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

#### Saturday

Fried chicken, meatloaf, mashed potatoes, au gratin potatoes, broccoli, summer squash

**Soup:** Turkey chili, chicken & sausage soup

**Salad bar:** A variety of vegetables, salads, and toppings

**Dessert:** Chocolate cream pie, banana bread, ice cream

**Short Order:** Hamburger, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, grilled chicken breast sandwich served with french fries

#### Sunday

Chicken parmesan, fish and chips, ziti, cole slaw, mixed vegetables

**Soup:** Turkey chili, chicken & sausage soup

**Salad bar:** A variety of vegetables, salads, toppings

**Dessert:** Marble cake w/frosting, brownies, ice cream

**Short Order:** Hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs or grilled chicken breast served with french fries



# Aircoop Celebrates Twentieth Birthday This Month

On the Wednesday evening training assembly of 4 May 1949, the troops in the first roll call formation were surprised with the distribution of Volume 1, Number 1, of the "Thunderbolt", the base newspaper which became the "Aircoop" five years later.

This first edition was a six-page mimeographed product with typed copy and hand-drawn pictures. The cover of the first five editions featured a sketch of a P-47 Thunderbolt buzzing the ANG area at Barnes, including some imaginative but erroneous ideas as to what the projected buildings here would look like.

The new paper was by and for the members of the units then part of the ANG here: The 131st Fighter Squadron (Augmented), the 131st Utility Flight, the 131st Weather Station, and Detachment B of the 202d Air Service Group.

The editor, three-striper John Lundberg, was assisted by MSG John McMahon, the first administrative Air Adviser to the Squadron, with SSgt Steve Shea being added by the second edition as staff artist.

Among the articles in the opening number were announcements of the forthcoming participation of the 131st Japs in an air show to aid the Cancer Fund, the welcome arrival of a steam jenny to clean aircraft and vehicle parts, the program of carburetor firing to take place at the Westover AFB engine, and the illustrated article announcing the transfer of Major Glenn C. Bush, operations officer here, to Logan to become detachment commander there.

The pay scale printed in the June 1949 edition will give some indication of the rank and longevity pictures here then. The steps were shown only to the ten year mark, and only up to the rank of captain. Pay started at \$2.50 per drill for privates to \$6.75 for masters, with 25-cent steps every two years. Second lieutenants started at \$7.50 and captains at \$11, with 50-cent steps. But this was only a proposed raise, and Congress turned it down.

Of special interest was the announcement by the Department of the Air Force that it was planning to equip the Air Guard with its first F-84s, three squadrons in Kansas, Wisconsin and New Mexico being on the lucky list.

The "Thunderbolt-Aircoop" has continued to report on news items such as these from the local up to the national and world levels for the two decades of its life, attempting to keep the membership of the Guard informed on matters appropriate to their interests, and to help foster understanding between the different levels of organization, and at the same time to maintain good journalistic standards.



## aircoop

104th Tactical Fighter Group, Westfield, Mass.

Vol 21, No. 1

May, 1969

### Large Segment of Group to Go South For Exercise During Field Training

#### New 'First John' Bars for Former Noncom



Former Tech Sergeant Michael Coffey, left, receives his bars as first lieutenant from his unit commander, Lt Col Edwin J. Matkowski of the 104th CAM Squadron. Lieutenant Coffey, an aircraft mechanic here for many years, assumes the duties of aircraft maintenance officer and is assigned to the organizational maintenance section.

### SKT Tests Dropped by AF, ANG As Criteria for Airman Upgrading

#### Weather Flight Slated To Perform Field Training At Gulfport ANG Site

Form its annual news training session at both a different time and different location from that of the parent 104th Tac Fighter Group.

The meteorological unit is slated to go to Gulfport, Mississippi, from July 6 through 20, with the Group's C-54 scheduled to provide the transportation if available, and commercial air travel authorized if it isn't.

So the weathermen will have to forgo Hyannis this year, but will probably find that New Orleans, within 100 miles of Gulfport, is more than a reasonable substitute.

The Specialty Knowledge Test, officially abbreviated to SKT, has ended its decade-and-a-half reign as the main measurement for upgrading of airmen to the fully skilled (5) and supervisory (7) levels.

Effective the first of last month, these tests were dropped from the classification system, although they will still be used by the Air Force only as part of their new point promotion system. The three-level or semi-skilled tests will still be used as before to identify qualification of OJT trainees and bypass specialists.

Replacing the SKT in identifying those who have met the knowledge portion of the requirement for advancement will be the End of Course Tests from the required Career

(Continued on Page Three)

Approximately 60 members of this Group will participate in Operation Eastac (named after Eastern Tactical Air Control System) at Travis Field, near Savannah, Georgia, during the field training period in July and August, while another 15-odd will be manning the exercise's Tactical Air Control Center at McEntire AFB at Congaree, South Carolina.

The purpose of the exercise is to deploy totally the complete air control system, with the emphasis placed on communications problems and radar controller training in GCA and GCI operation.

Brig Gen John J. Stefank, commander of the 102d Wing, will be the generalissimo for the whole operation, covering the eastern half of the country and involving units at several eastern bases. His base will be the TACC at McEntire, where he will be supported by operations and intelligence personnel.

Ten F-84F fighters and several transport aircraft to move the support personnel and supplies will take off here for Travis on July 19, the first day of the field training period. Although the two-hour flight is within the range of the jets, it is expected that a mid-air refueling will be performed en route for practice purposes.

A flying complement of about 16 pilots will be maintained at Travis all during the exercise, present plans including a shift halfway through to make the experience available to more pilots if feasible. Flying operations will include 16 sorties per day, made up of close air support, aerial refueling, ground controlled intercept, and live weapons deployment missions.

Lt Col Fred W. Johnson, commander of the 131st Tactical Fighter Squadron here, will command the detachment at Travis, which will include about 20 aircraft mechanics, about a dozen aircraft specialists, as well as refueling, supply, vehicle, operations, intelligence, and tactical personnel. Volunteers will be permitted to indicate their interest in going to Savannah first, with the remaining vacancies filled by assignment.

(Continued on Page Three)

#### MASSACHUSETTS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

104th Fighter Wing—PA  
Barnes Air National Guard Base  
175 Falcon Drive, Westfield, MA 01805

[www.104fw.ang.af.mil](http://www.104fw.ang.af.mil)  
[www.westfieldairshow.net](http://www.westfieldairshow.net)

Social media sites:  
[www.facebook.com/barnesang](http://www.facebook.com/barnesang)  
[www.twitter.com/104fighterwing](http://www.twitter.com/104fighterwing)  
[www.flickr.com/photos/barnesangb](http://www.flickr.com/photos/barnesangb)



PRIDE,  
PROFESSIONALISM,  
PATRIOTISM

**We're on the Web**  
**WWW.104FW.ANG.AF.MIL**

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